

Rush-Presbyterian-St. Luke's Nurses Alumni Association

Rush College of Nursing

Spring/Summer 1998

# News & Views

## Mom turns life around to become nurse practitioner

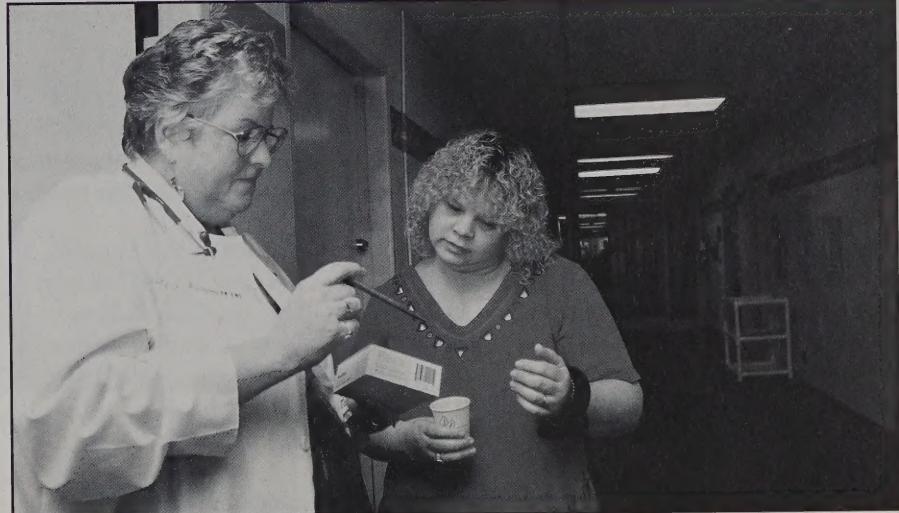
by Rebecca Johns Trissler

**W**hen Donna Cox-Rodriguez, RN '91, ND '96, sees low-income patients at the Community Clinic of Northwest Illinois in Freeport, she knows that she easily could have been the one at the other end of the stethoscope.

A mother of four who once lived on public aid, Cox-Rodriguez wanted to be a pediatrician when she was a child, but dropped out of school in the beginning of ninth grade and became a waitress. Her troubles mounted when she went on welfare so she could stay at home and raise her three special-needs kids: Tom, now 30, Andrea, 25, and Chris, 24. It was only her youngest child, Art, 23, who had no special needs.

Tom was born mentally retarded; Andrea and Chris both had physical disabilities. Her kids' many health difficulties made her a frequent visitor to clinic waiting rooms in Chicago. Now, instead of sitting in clinics as a patient, Cox-Rodriguez helps run the clinic. "When I was on public aid, I knew what it was like to have limited resources and have kids who were sick," she says. "I really can relate to my patients."

A joint venture between the Stephenson County Health Department and Freeport Memorial Hospital, the Community Clinic of Northwest Illinois is a treatment cen-



**Donna Cox-Rodriguez, RN '91, ND '96, has a special rapport with her low-income patients at the Community Clinic of Northeast Illinois — she used to be one of them.**

ter for the uninsured. As a nurse-practitioner, Cox-Rodriguez works with an MD (Rush Medical College grad Kevin Kilpatrick), two registered nurses, a certified nurse's assistant and a secretary. Patients pay only \$5 a visit, but no one is ever turned away for lack of money. Cox-Rodriguez says she's seen more than a thousand patients in a year and a half.

"This is exactly the kind of job Rush prepared me for," she says. "I'm very autonomous. I'm very fortunate to be in this kind of a situation."

But the path that brought her to Rush and clinical work was a winding one. Determined to go back to school when her youngest child started

kindergarten, she earned her General Equivalency Diploma (GED) and started taking classes at Chicago's Daley College, earning A after A, a shock to a woman who never thought she was smart.

Money woes at that time, though, kept Cox-Rodriguez from continuing her education, so she began a career in real estate — that is, until she had to undergo treatment for cervical cancer in 1986. "There was a big nursing shortage at that time.

There were no nurses to take care of me," she says. "If it wasn't for the patient in the bed next to me, I wouldn't have gotten any pain medi-

**continued on page 8**

# Saying so long to Schwepppe-Sprague Hall

by Lisa Spengler

Presbyterian Hospital's acquisition of Chicago's first kidney dialysis machine and America's escalating involvement in the Korean War were among the headlines from newspapers and hospital bulletins in 1950.

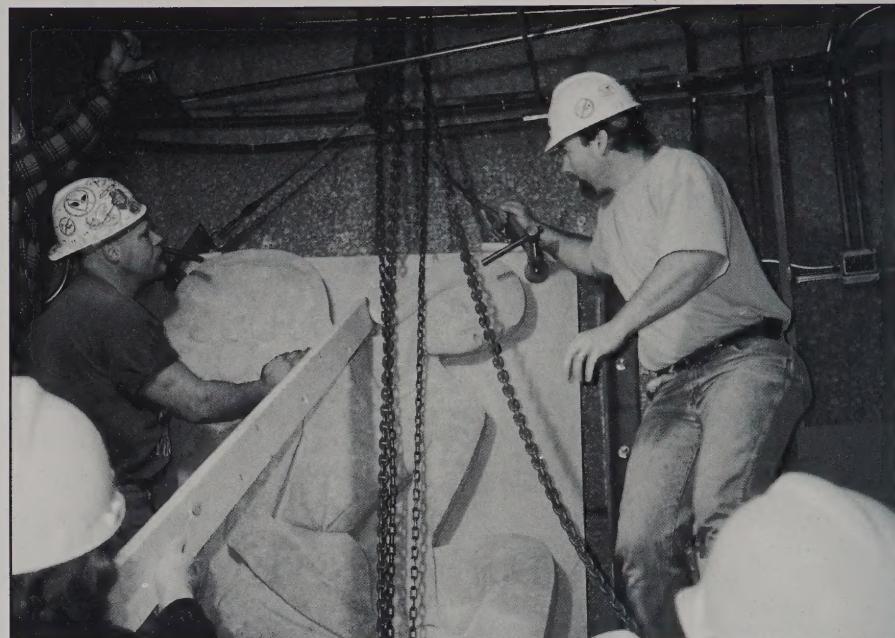
That was the year a time capsule was set in the cornerstone of Schwepppe-Sprague Hall, to lie untouched for 48 years.

Schwepppe-Sprague Hall — home to Rush College of Nursing and its predecessor schools for more than four decades — was recently demolished to make room for the new Robert H. and Terri Cohn Research Building.

Construction of the new building is set to begin this spring. Contents of the time capsule, including four Chicago daily newspapers from 1950, an application for admission to the Presbyterian School of Nursing and a copy of the 1949 annual report of Presbyterian Hospital, were revealed at a ceremony in February.

Over the years, Schwepppe-Sprague Hall has served as a dormitory, teaching facility and office building for students and faculty of Rush College of Nursing and two of its predecessor nursing schools. Since the 1950s, more than 3,000 nursing students attended class there.

The building was completed in 1952 after the City of Chicago



**The angel that formerly graced the entrance of Schwepppe-Sprague is moved to its new home on the first floor of the Armour Academic Center.**

ordered the demolition of Sprague Hall, the old home of the Presbyterian School of Nursing, to make room for construction of the Eisenhower Expressway. Schwepppe-Sprague was built on a site that had been occupied by a research building from 1893 to 1949.

Early inhabitants of Schwepppe-Sprague enjoyed tea parties and dances held in the first floor lounge and auditorium. Nursing students of the 1950s and 1960s lived in private dorm rooms housed on the upper floors of the 15-story building. In 1968, Presbyterian-St. Luke's School of Nursing closed, and the dorm rooms were converted to offices. But nursing students once again attended class in the building when Rush College of Nursing opened its doors in 1973. From the mid-1970s to the building's closing in 1997, Schwepppe-Sprague also housed classrooms and offices for other colleges of Rush University.

A part of Schwepppe-Sprague Hall lives on, though. The angel bas-relief sculpture that overlooked the front entrance of the old nursing

building now greets visitors at the entrance to the A. Watson Armour III and Sarah Wood Armour Academic Center, the new home of the College of Nursing.

## Welcome home!

Join the Rush-Presbyterian-St. Luke's Nurses Alumni Association for Homecoming 1998.

This year's events include our first nursing continuing education program, "Complementary and Alternative Therapies: Past Traditions, Future Practice," presented by alumna Elaine Scorza, MS, RN, CS; as well as "A Fond Look Back," presented by Medical Center Archivist Stuart Campbell, PhD, on the rich history of the College of Nursing.

This year's Homecoming Banquet will honor the Class of 1948 and feature a special presentation by alumna Mary Jo Hark.

Please contact the Alumni Relations office at (312) 942-7164 for more information.

# Nurses reach out to communities in need

by Amanda Temple

**W**hen she was a junior at John Marshall High School, Patricia Potts, RN, ND '96, saw her West-side neighborhood paralyzed by the 1968 riots that followed Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.'s assassination. Thirty years and dozens of boarded-up storefronts later, Potts is helping to restore the economic and social vitality that once characterized North Lawndale.

As a nurse practitioner at the Rush Homan Square Health Care Clinic, Potts has a front-row view of the reawakening. "When I heard about a clinic in my old neighborhood, I jumped at the opportunity to bring my education and experiences back home," says Potts, a 22-year veteran of Rush who returned to Homan Square to work a year ago. The clinic is located in the recently renovated Sears headquarters, which closed in the early '70s.

The route Potts took back to her old neighborhood is one the College of Nursing encourages more nurses to take as part of its community outreach program. For almost 25 years, the program has placed students, faculty and staff from the College of Nursing in schools, social service agencies and neighborhood clinics — anywhere

that allowed them to meet the health needs of the underserved. Recognizing the need to focus on disease prevention, the College has aggressively sought out opportunities to provide screening and education in local communities. Thanks to hundreds of school physicals, cholesterol screenings, eye exams and other preventative measures, Rush nurses have become a familiar sight in neighborhoods where health care is often hard to find.

The number of outreach sites has nearly doubled to 85 since 1995. Many of the newer locations illustrate the program's widening range of services and the nurses' deeper involvement in the community. For example, in addition to working with younger kids in a summer-camp program offered by the Robert Crown Center, nurses at the Hinsdale facility have started a program for teenagers. This past summer, Judy Tarlos Benka, MSN, an instructor in maternal-child nursing, began teaching a date-rape prevention course there.

In another effort to extend their reach, faculty and students in family and pediatric nurse practitioner programs are giving students at Frazier Elementary in North Lawndale more than just checkups. A healthy dose of storytelling and reading are now offered to students who also receive lead screenings, physical exams and immunizations.

While the community-based network continues to expand, program leaders have also been working to make sure their efforts reach as many communities as possible.

"Word-of-mouth referrals have brought a lot of organizations to Rush," says Linda Hollinger-Smith, PhD, RN, director of nursing for the Primary Care Institute and assistant dean of academic systems for the College of Nursing. "But we want a more formal and interactive way of bringing Rush to the people who need us."

To meet that goal, the College of Nursing recently formed a Community Advisory Committee, made of representatives from area social service agencies, health departments, community groups, civic organizations and healthcare professionals. The agenda is straightforward: to solidify the connections already made and to link Rush to those communities where needs are great and resources are dwindling. Establishing these connections is essential to the council's long-range goal of recruiting community members to become involved in community health. "Who better understands the challenges and knows how to meet them than someone who faces them?" Hollinger-Smith says.

In fact, Hollinger-Smith says the push to recruit came from the community, not the college. "They told us to start in elementary school so the children we meet could see us as role models," she says about the response from community leaders during the committee's first meeting in January.

Members of the committee have been encouraged by their colleagues' success in gaining the trust and participation of residents in the communities they serve. Gretchen Buswell, director of Primary Care for Chicago Health Outreach, one of about 20 groups working with the College of Nursing, is hopeful about the future of the project.

"Since we work with people from such diverse cultural and socioeconomic backgrounds, this is a great opportunity to share and learn from one another's experiences," she says.

## The envelope please...

Barbara E. Schmidt, RN, St. Luke's '53, has been named the 1998 Rush-Presbyterian-St. Luke's Nurses Alumni Association Distinguished Alumna Award winner. A nursing innovator and tireless administrator, Schmidt exemplifies the best in nursing at Rush. Congratulations!

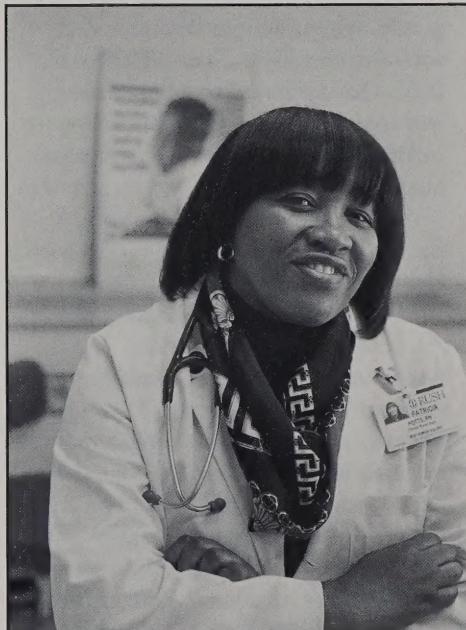


photo by Jean Clough

# Making connections through nursing

by Karen Van Dyke Lamb, Pres.-St. Luke's '67, Rush MS '82 and ND '91

Assistant Professor, Rush College of Nursing

President, Rush-Presbyterian-St. Luke's Nurses Alumni Association



**L**ate last year the wrecking ball began to swing and the walls of Schweiß-Sprague Hall started to come down. I watched the demolition with mixed emotions. My thoughts were about the experiences that so many of our alumni, including myself, had in the building. I also thought how fortunate we are to have a marvelous new state-of-the-art facility for the College of Nursing in the Armour Academic Center.

For those of you who feel as nostalgic as I do about the razing of Schweiß-Sprague, you will have the opportunity to own a piece of history. The Alumni Association is selling Schweiß bricks, a great way for you to support the College of Nursing. At the same time, you can have a special memento of your years in Schweiß. If those walls could talk, I am sure that we would hear some amazing stories about friendships, role models, college romances, learning, tears and laughter.

Sometimes, though, those stories come best from the sources themselves. This winter I had the opportunity to travel to the gulf coast of Florida to host a tea for alumni living in the area. The tea was a good

opportunity to spend time with those who attended and to give an update on the activities of the College and the Alumni Association. It was gratifying to see those who attended catching up with each other's lives. I know that I enjoyed spending time with two of my own classmates. But more than that, the event was a great chance for networking.

Networking, as I see it, is one of the most important functions of our alumni organization. We have alumni who live all over the world, including Alaska, Taiwan and Australia. You never know when you will meet a graduate of our programs or how your contacts will be helpful professionally or personally. For instance, I had the experience of being discovered by an alumna in London in September 1994. It was astonishing to be walking down the street in London and hear someone call my name. Macaire Corchoran Tripp, Rush '93, was living in London at the time of our chance encounter. Then on another trip two years later, I visited with Macaire and her family again. During our visit I found out about Macaire's family and professional life and updated her on news from Rush. It was great to see a friendly face so far from home, and Macaire greatly appreciated hearing about friends and events at Rush.

Networking opportunities such as this one, both for professional and social purposes, is going to be easier for all of us now that our directory is published. I am pleased that so many of you participated in this alumni endeavor and thank you for your support. I would also like to thank Lynn Friedman of Alumni Relations for her efforts in spearheading production of the directory.

Finally, as I wrote in the last issue of *News & Views*, the search to fill the Alumni Association Chair in Health

and the Aging Process is under way. Martha Mills and I serve as the Alumni Association representatives on a committee chaired by Joyce Keithley, DNSc. We have reviewed many applications and interviewed potential candidates. I feel confident that the selection process will be complete before the year is over. It has been fulfilling for me to be involved in this exciting process from the early days of fund-raising to the phase of selecting a candidate. The Alumni Association will have made a major impact on the College of Nursing and the field of aging when the chair is appointed, and I look forward to being able to announce the appointment to you soon.

## College of Nursing Alumni Directory

Our Rush University College of Nursing Alumni Directory project is nearing completion, and the directories will be shipped soon.

This comprehensive new volume is a compilation of the most current data available on more than 4,700 Rush University College of Nursing Alumni. The directories are scheduled to be released in April. All alumni who reserved a copy should receive it within three weeks of its release. If you have a question on your order or wish to place an order, please contact our publisher directly at this address:

Customer Service Department  
Bernard C. Harris Publishing  
16 Koger Center, Suite 1034  
Norfolk, Va. 23502  
Phone (800) 877-6554

# What's springing up at the College of Nursing

by Kathleen G. Andreoli, DSN, FAAN, Vice President for Nursing Affairs

The John L. and Helen Kellogg Dean of the College of Nursing

**S**pring is a time of renewal, of putting the past behind us and starting fresh. And though it can be hard to say goodbye — as we in the College of Nursing did this past winter with the demolition of Schweppé-Sprague — it's also important to look ahead, and to face the challenge of educating healthcare professionals for the 21st century.

The College of Nursing is also in a time of renewal, instituting changes we hope will improve the quality of nursing education while preserving the college's rich and diverse history. The changes we've seen in recent months point the way for things to come.

## Improvement by degrees

In an effort to align baccalaureate and master's degree designations more closely with the doctoral degree designations (ND and DSNC), the faculty of the College of Nursing voted in August to change a BS in Nursing to a BSN and an MS in Nursing to an MSN. Unlike the BS, MS and PhD degrees, which are considered more academic, these designations are considered professional degrees. Their adoption more closely reflects degree programs in a college that has a national reputation for clinical practice and research.

## Keithley, Zeller win grant

Joyce Keithley, DSNC, FAAN, and Jan Zeller, PhD, RN, FAAN, have been awarded a training grant entitled "Altered Immunocompetence Nursing Specialization," funded by the Division of Nursing of the Department of Health and Human Services. Keithley and Zeller, co-directors of the three-year, \$510,491 project, are both professors in the Department of Medical-Surgical Nursing.

As a result, the faculty has

voted to add an expanded area of concentration. "Advanced Practice Nursing for Altered Immunocompetence" will prepare clinical nurse specialists to care for diverse groups of patients with altered immune systems in both inpatient and outpatient settings. The program will also qualify advanced practice nurses to work in interdisciplinary teams.

This program expands the current master's program in cancer nursing and develops a new master's-level program in HIV nursing.

## Multicultural affairs

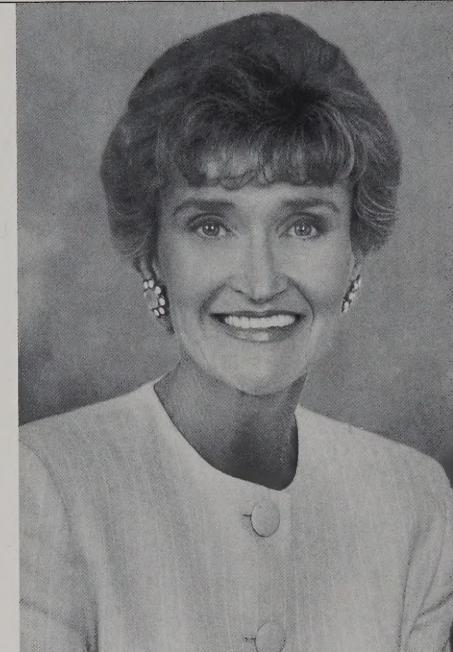
Lucy Willis, PhD, RN, assistant professor in the Department of Maternal-Child Nursing, has been appointed acting director of multicultural affairs. Dr. Willis retains her position as an academic facilitator, aiding at-risk students in their studies. Her new post is well deserved. Her dedication to increasing cultural diversity in the student body and cultural competence in the faculty reflects the goals of the College.

She replaces Torrey Wilson, PhD, who announced his resignation last November. Wilson accepted a position as scientist-project director in the Adolescent Health Department of the American Medical Association in December.

We hope the appointment of Dr. Willis will mean continued good things for the ethnic diversity of the college. Admissions of non-white students continue to rise; in 1997, minority students account for 34 percent of all admissions, up from 21 percent in 1996.

## Redesigned pins

The green Anchor-Cross pins bearing the Rush logo have been a part of the mid-year pinning ceremony at the College of Nursing for the last 25



years. But we bid farewell to this familiar sight after the ceremony of November 21, 1997, when Karen Lamb, president of the Nurses' Alumni Association, pinned the last pin on the last lapel.

The new pin, bearing the College of Nursing seal, makes its debut at the June 1998 pinning ceremony. Bearing a shield with four sections, the pin combines the symbols for past nursing programs — Presbyterian, St. Luke's, Presbyterian-St. Luke's and the current Rush symbol. The new design is intended to signify life, sacrifice and service.

## Rank and file

Last but not least, congratulations to the College of Nursing for its 12th place ranking in this year's *U.S. News and World Report's* listing of America's top graduate schools. This puts us in the top four percent in the country. The master's in nursing program at Rush jumped from last year's top 10 percent, and our Nurse Anesthetist Program was number one in the country. Congratulations!



# Class Notes

Former College of Nursing faculty member GARYFALLIA FORSYTH, PhD, of Green Valley, Ariz., writes: "I lost my best friend and husband two years ago. I also miss RPSLMC and my coworkers, and still find solace in a wonderful retirement with much travel. I have just returned from a tour of Italy, Greece and Turkey. I look forward to a cruise to the Hawaiian Islands, other exotic islands and finally New Zealand in June 1998. Aboard the ship I will learn about the use of computers, so I can better use mine. Still keeping my mind active and alert."

## 1930s

STELLA ENGEL NEW, St. Luke's '32, of Oak Brook, Ill., reports that she is recovering from a fractured hip and enjoys hearing the news of former classmates.

MAURENE BECKER RIETZ, St. Luke's '38, of Carmi, Ill., writes that she still lives on a farm and enjoys the rural life, but wonders about many of her classmates.

## 1940s

EVALYN SMALL MIKES, St. Luke's '41, of Des Plaines, Ill., reports that classmates DORIS FULLER CABRERA, JOYCE MATHIEU GROH, RUTH ALICE CANNON CONKLIN, EILEEN PRICKETT, GENEVIEVE QUIES STEINMETZ and MAXINE PITTENGER ECK came for a visit in Des Plaines, and all had a good time.

## 1950s

MARILYN DELFS BARR, St. Luke's '51, of Chicago, enjoys retirement and would love to hear from her classmates.

MARGARET CHRISTIE NICHOLAIS, Pres. '52, of Chatham, NJ, writes: "I thought that after a certain age things slow down. Forget it! Mike works full time for pay, and I work full time 'just because.' I have been

newly elected to our library board and begin work on the state board of trustees art school. I also run a shop in a retirement community. Lately we took the trip of a lifetime — China — and plan to go to Africa in February 1998."

PHYLLIS ROBSON KOLTZ, Pres. '56, of Punta Gorda, Fla., writes that she retired more than two years ago and moved from Walworth, Wisc., to Florida. She would love to hear from former classmates who might be living in or visiting her corner of Florida.

## 1960s

FRANCES VANDERMYDE CECIL, Pres.-St. Luke's '66, of Sturgeon Bay, Wisc., is still actively working in the emergency room in Door County, where she is also the innkeeper of an award-winning bed-and-breakfast along with her husband, Bill. Their daughters live in Chicago; Fran is now the proud grandma of 1-year-old John Michael.

## 1970s

CINDY SMITH GREENBERG, Rush '76, of Lake Forest, Calif., received her DNSc from the University of San Diego. She also received a predoctoral

## Presbyterian grad retires from nursing at Rush

In January, Carolyn Wessel Helf, RN, Pres. '57, the last Presbyterian graduate employed as a staff nurse at Rush, retired from nursing.

During her 40-year career at the Medical Center, Helf worked as a staff nurse on many different units and also held administrative positions. But Helf says her favorite part of being a nurse was working directly with patients.



Fran Jacobs, MS '85 and Carolyn Wessel Helf, Pres. '57.

"I really enjoy bedside care," Helf says. Most recently, she worked with patients on the cancer unit on 11 Kellogg.

Even though she has retired from nursing, Helf doesn't plan to loosen her ties with the Medical Center or her fellow Presbyterian graduates. "I make a

point to attend the alumni reunion every year," she says.

fellowship from the American Cancer Society, California Division, to support her dissertation research on the efficacy of nonpharmacologic pain interventions in infants.

MARY CHASE-ZIOLEK, Rush '77, of Chicago, recently defended her dissertation on "Health Ministry in the Life of a Congregation with a Parish Nurse." She has completed her PhD in nursing at Loyola University.

LYNN WASHINGTON GOLDBERG, Rush '79, of Newton, Mass., is currently working as a public health nurse at Boston's Public Health Commission in maternal-child health.

## 1980s

CHERYL A. HAGER, Rush '82, of Chicago, was selected to serve a four-year term on the U.S. Olympic Committee.

## 1990s

PHYLLIS E. COLLINS, Rush '91, of Tamuning, Guam, moved to the island after graduation to work as a family nurse practitioner at the Guam SDA clinic.

# In Memoriam

## Presbyterian

MARTHA E. PARK, Pres. '27, of Wheaton, Ill., Oct. 25, 1997.

LILLY S. CLEGG, Pres. '29, of Jacksonville, Fla., Jan. 15, 1998.

ANNIE CORBIN KEEP, Pres. '29, of Lee's Summit, Mo., Dec. 28, 1996.

ALICE SONIUS TAYLOR, Pres. '32, of Orlando, Fla.

ALICE CROUT FUNK, Pres. '43, of Gridley, Ill., January 4, 1998. An Army nurse who served in the China-Burma-India theater in World War II, she was preceded in death by her sister, NELLE CROUT, Pres. '28.

VERNA DAVIS WILSON, Pres. '46, of Bridgman, Mich., Jan. 9, 1998.

HELEN BARNES BEHRER, Pres. '47, of Taylor Ridge, Ill., June 5, 1997.

JOANNE LEFF LEEDY, Pres. '56, of Reno, Nev., Nov. 16, 1997.

VALERIE A. PLUTZ  
BLUMENKRANTZ, Pres. '56, of Beverly, Mass., Dec. 1, 1997.

## St. Luke's

EVE MORKILL, St. Luke's '14, of

New Orleans, La., Aug. 23, 1997. A Canadian Army Medical Corps nurse who served in England and France during World War I, she was decorated in 1918 by the Prince of Wales, the future King Edward VIII. She worked after the war for International Harvester in Chicago and moved to New Orleans in 1957.

PATRICIA CROWLEY KELLER, St. Luke's '47, of Tempe, Ariz., on Nov. 20, 1997.

## Rush

FRANK LAMENDOLA, Rush '76, of Minneapolis, Minn., on Jan. 11, 1998. A committed AIDS caregiver and activist, Frank was co-founder of Journeywell, which sponsored many retreats and conferences on HIV. He worked as a hospice nurse and grief counselor, and founded the Minneapolis Gay Men's Chorus, which he sang in for a decade.

### Brick by Brick

Own a piece of history!

The Nurses' Alumni Association is selling Schweppes-Sprague bricks. For \$50, you can own a piece of Rush history. Call Buggie O'Grady at (312) 942-7199 for details.

## NEWS & VIEWS

Spring/Summer 1998

*News & Views* is published twice a year by the Rush-Presbyterian-St. Luke's Nursing Alumni Association and the Rush College of Nursing. It is produced by the Office of Alumni Relations, Department of Philanthropy and Communication, Rush-Presbyterian-St. Luke's Medical Center, 1700 W. Van Buren St., Chicago, IL 60612 (312) 942-7199.

### EDITOR

Rebecca Johns Trissler

### WRITERS

Lisa Spengler  
Amanda Temple

### OFFICE OF ALUMNI RELATIONS

Sharon Gates  
Director

Lynn Friedman  
Assistant Director

Buggie O'Grady  
Assistant Director

Lakiesha Bracy  
Secretary

## What's New with You?

Your classmates want to know! Please send your latest news — personal and professional — to *News & Views* c/o The Nurses' Alumni Association, Rush-Presbyterian-St. Luke's Medical Center, 1700 W. Van Buren St., Suite 250, Chicago, IL 60612.

Name (please print)

Class of

Address (street, city, state and zip)

News

Presbyterian

St. Luke's

Pres.-St. Luke's

Rush

Spring/Summer 1998

continued from page 1

cation at all. It really brought a desire to work in health care back to me."

A plan was reborn. She went back to Daley and graduated with high honors from a two-year associate's degree program in liberal arts. Then she entered the College of Nursing bachelor's degree program in 1989. "I had come to a Rush open house while I was still at Daley," she says. "I really wanted to go, even though I wasn't sure how I was going to afford it." She managed to pay for college through scholarships, grants and loans, and entered the doctoral program immediately after graduating.

"It was so hard at first," she says. "I was completely overwhelmed. But I knew I had to stick with it."

A little help didn't hurt, either. Cox-Rodriguez credits her husband, Merci, and her children for backing her dream. "I couldn't have made it through without them," she says. "And it did make my children very independent people."

Cox-Rodriguez found out more about that when her daughter, Andrea, gave birth to her first child on February 19 and asked her mom, the nurse practitioner who has come so far, to be her Lamaze coach.

## Out of Schweppe, into Africa

by Rebecca Johns Trissler

When the College of Nursing began preparations for tearing down Schweppe-Sprague Hall, administrators were faced with the question of what to do with the boxes of old nursing textbooks stored in the building and in the offices of faculty and staff.

Then Joan Reeves, former assistant professor of community health nursing at Rush and now assistant professor of nursing at the University of New Hampshire, came up with a plan to send the books to Africa. Reeves had worked at the University of Botswana from 1988-1992 as part of a faculty exchange program with the Kellogg Foundation.

While in Botswana, Reeves had made the acquaintance of Professor David Rubadiri, now the United Nations ambassador for the Republic of Malawi. Reeves contacted Rubadiri, and he agreed that the textbooks would be an excellent addition to the Kamuzu College of Nursing school in Malawi, a country where the average life expectancy is only 39 years, and where there is only one physician for every 27,000 people.

At the request of Kathleen Andreoli, DSN, FAAN, dean of the College of Nursing, nursing faculty

pulled together 72 boxes of donated books. The Sara Lee Corporation — which was sending books from the Chicago Public Schools to South Africa — generously agreed to add Rush's books to its shipment.

The books arrived at the Playtex Plant in Durban, South Africa in December, where they were loaded onto trucks sent by Malawi's vice president and minister of finance, Justin Malewezi. The books arrived at Kamuzu College of Nursing School in Blantyre, Malawi, in January.

Despite the fact that the texts are slightly out of date — most are from between 1980 and 1990 — Reeves says they will still be useful to Kamuzu College of Nursing in building its library. Reeves says the donation is especially helpful because of the cost of acquiring textbooks from overseas. "I think they'll have great value there," she says.

The Malawi ambassador, David Rubadiri, agreed. "You cannot imagine the joy and rise of morale when finally they [the books] make a new home in the college library and the knowledge that they carry with them spreads the skills of nursing and the healing knowledge for our rural country folk," he wrote in thanks.

## Rush-Presbyterian-St. Luke's Nurses Alumni Association 1997-1999 Board of Directors

### President

Karen Van Dyke Lamb,  
Pres.-St. Luke's '67,  
Rush MS '82, ND '91

### Vice President

Cathy Catrambone, Rush MS '89

### Secretary/Treasurer

Margaret Faut-Callahan,  
Rush MS '79, DNSC '84

### Board Members

Sally Brozenec,  
Rush MS '77

Inette Hoxsey Godman,  
Pres.-St. Luke's '61

Carolyn Wessel Helf,  
Pres. '57, Rush BS '87

Lisa Sigg Mendelson,  
Pres.-St. Luke's '65,  
Rush MS '82

Martha J. Mills,  
Pres.-St. Luke's '65

Nancy Hayda Mills,  
Pres.-St. Luke's '65

Joan C. Nelson,  
St. Luke's '53

Mildred Hudak Perlia,  
Pres. '54

Sandra Scribano Robertson,  
St. Luke's '57

Barbara Edgar Schmidt,  
St. Luke's '53